

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: KIM, Min-won

SERIAL NO.: 10/579,365

ART UNIT: 4153

FILED: May 15, 2006

EXAMINER: Mellon, D. C.

TITLE: FLUID FLOW INTERRUPTION MEANS FOR FILTER OF WATER PURIFIER

Amendment B: CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1 and 2 (canceled).

3. (Currently amended) A filter apparatus for a water purifier comprising:

a head having a guide passage and an inlet port and an outlet port, said guide passage suitable for guiding fluid into said head through said inlet port, said outlet port suitable for discharging purified fluid from said head;

a filter body threadedly locked to said head, said filter body in fluid communication with said guide passage and said inlet port and said outlet port so as to receive fluid from said guide passage and said inlet port and to transfer purified fluid to said outlet port; and

a fluid flow interrupting means disposed in said guide passage, said fluid flow interrupting means having a fluid guide rod formed at one end thereof, said fluid flow interrupting means having an opening and a closing body connected at one end thereof to said fluid guide rod, said opening and closing body having a gradually decreasing diameter with an O-ring fitted therearound adjacent one end thereof and an opening and closing projection formed adjacent an opposite end thereof, said fluid flow interrupting means having an elastic spring cooperative with said guide passage for controllably opening and closing said guide passage by force of said elastic spring when said head and said filter body are coupled and uncoupled from each other, said filter body having at least one through hole defined at an upper end thereof so as to allow fluid from said

guide passage and said inlet port to flow into said filter body, said guide passage having a hollow cylindrical protuberance formed at one end thereof, said hollow cylindrical protuberance having an inner diameter greater than an outer diameter of said fluid guide rod, said guide passage having a gradually decreasing inner diameter at an opposite end thereof, said fluid guide rod inserted through one end of said elastic spring, said elastic spring having another end fitted around said hollow cylindrical protuberance, said fluid guide rod suitable for guiding fluid therearound, said elastic spring being supported by said hollow cylindrical protuberances~~said O-ring being movable so as to close said guide passage so as to interrupt a flow of fluid therethrough.~~

4. (Previously presented) The filter apparatus of Claim 3, further comprising:

a bracket having one end coupled to an outer surface of said head and an opposite end suitable for fastening to a wall.